

HIV infections despite representing only about 12.3 percent of the population.

The CDC estimates that in 2005, African American women accounted for over 66 percent of all HIV/AIDS cases among women and were 25 times more likely to be infected than white women.

Drastic, drastic, drastic decisions have to be made. We may be able to address this question by educating, but I do believe we must confront the question of testing. In our high schools today we are finding that there are those who are proving to be HIV positive as early as ninth grade and as early as middle school. We have to address this question. I ask my colleagues to wake up and confront this crisis in America.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF THE THIRD GRADE CLASS AT BROOK FOREST ELEMENTARY

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, this past Friday I had the privilege of visiting the third grade classes at Brook Forest Elementary School in Oak Brook, Illinois. They gave me a wonderful and informative presentation on current efforts to protect the Mexican Grey Wolf and save it from extinction. I was impressed by their thorough research and their dedication to protecting this endangered species. They felt so strongly about it that they held a bake sale and raised \$448 to donate to Chicago's Brookfield Zoo for its wolf breeding program.

I commend their teachers for their creativity in planning such a comprehensive and engaging curriculum. They combined lessons in science, social studies, public speaking, and environmental and civic responsibility into one challenging and complete unit.

I want to offer a big "thank you" to my new friends at Brook Forest for teaching me so much. I join them in their noble cause, and will continue to work in Congress to protect endangered species like the Mexican Grey Wolf.

HEROIC ACT OF SPC GURLEY

(Mr. HARE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to another great American hero. On July 15, 2006, Specialist Nathan Gurley of Fayetteville, North Carolina, though wounded, fiercely pulled Specialist Josh Eckley of Little York, Illinois and another crew member from a military vehicle that had been hit by an IED while on combat logistics control in Al Anbar Province in Iraq. For his heroism, Specialist Gurley was awarded a Bronze Star with Valor and the Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the 17th District of Illinois, I thank Specialist Gurley for saving the life of one of our beloved sons. Specialist Gurley and Specialist Eckley represent the best the United States military has to offer in Iraq. These two brave soldiers risked their lives to fight an unrelenting insurgency in one of our country's most dangerous areas. For their service, the American people will be forever indebted.

Madam Speaker, brave men such as Specialist Gurley and Specialist Eckley are hard to come by, so for their sake and for all those continuing to fight, it is my sincere hope that at the conclusion of this war their sacrifice will not be in vain.

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BENEFITS OF TRADE AGREEMENTS

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, today's Wall Street Journal ran an editorial on the benefits of trade agreements. It is clear that additional trade agreements are an essential part of our economic future if we want high-quality, high-paying jobs for ourselves and our children.

Several years ago, I formed the Economic Competitive Caucus to reveal the barriers, created by Congress, that keep us from bringing jobs back to America.

Lack of free trade agreements is one of those barriers, and it is clear that from the information from the U.S. Trade Representative's office that our trade has increased 26 percent with 10 of the countries that we signed trade agreements with since 2001, compared with the rest of the world, which has only grown by 13 percent. This success has meant more union jobs at U.S. manufacturers like Caterpillar, Boeing, and Cessna.

Madam Speaker, I believe America would have a stronger economy and more high-quality, high-paying jobs, including more union jobs, if Congress had approved 40 trade pacts like the Chilean Government has over the past 15 years.

Madam Speaker, let us tear down the trade barriers for American working families.

END THE RHETORIC

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, in the Senate right now, there is a piece of nonbinding legislation that disapproves of the troop surge or the Bush Doctrine. Now, it is nonbinding.

What I find offensive, when we have troops on the ground in combat, is you

have a bunch of self-proclaimed moralist Senators saying that we should not do this, and so what they want is a nonbinding legislation.

Well, if they really feel like this idea is a bad idea and it imperils Americans, then they should follow their conviction and introduce real legislation. After all, they do carry the impact of changing the law since they are the U.S. Senate.

I think it is silly to have an extra-curricular, intramural exercise. They should bring real legislation to the floor. I am hoping that Members of the House will do that.

There are a lot of critics of the war in the House. Well, it is time to tone down the rhetoric and beef up the legislation, whether you want immediate withdrawal, phased-down withdrawal, a surge, maybe a bigger surge than the President.

We should be having real conversations in Washington. The election is over.

MEMBERS NOT ABOVE THE LAW

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, over the last 2 years Americans have heard story after story about what my constituents very frequently call, "Members Gone Wild."

Duke Cunningham, James Traficant, Bob Ney, Frank Ballance have all been convicted of crimes and are serving time in prison. These are all former Members of Congress and hail from both sides of the partisan divide.

Madam Speaker, constituents are fed up with this behavior. They expect their elected representatives to be held to a higher standard.

When the FBI gets an authorized search warrant and enters the office of a sitting Member accused of taking bribes, it just makes sense to constituents and to me that Congress should not interfere.

Last week, I reintroduced my legislation, H. Res. 88, a resolution that declares to our constituents that we agree with them: Members of Congress should not be above the law.

Listen up, America. Turning a blind eye to alleged indiscretions by elected Members of Congress will no longer pass muster.

I urge my colleagues to join with others who are cosponsoring this resolution.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.